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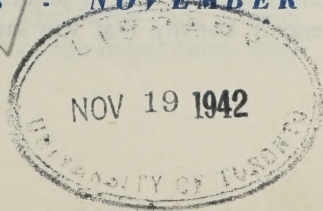


CANADA



AT WAR

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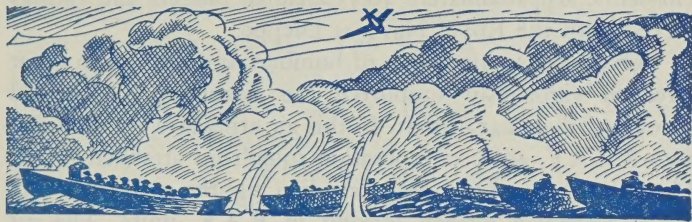
Army

IN THE combined operation force that stormed Dieppe on August 19, soldiers from the Canadian Army Overseas formed five-sixths of the land troops. They were under the command of a Canadian, Major General J. H. Roberts, M.C., the commanding officer of the 2nd Canadian Division. In the landing force Canadian soldiers fought beside Royal Marine Commandos and small detachments of United States Rangers and Fighting French troops.

The Canadian group included large elements of two brigades of the 2nd Division and one battalion of the 1st Army Tank Brigade. These men were chosen because they were judged equal to the magnitude of the task, "one which could be entrusted only to troops of a very high standard of training and general quality."

The operation was most carefully planned in every detail and although the preparations could not altogether be kept secret the destination of the thrust was successfully concealed until shortly before the first landing took place. The cliffs in the Dieppe area and the very considerable German defence works against invasion from the sea made this frontal attack on the most strongly held coastal area of Europe an undertaking extremely hazardous and difficult.

After an uneventful crossing of the Channel, the invasion fleet, by an unlucky chance, encountered a small enemy convoy that was sailing close to the French coast.



The naval engagement that followed delayed some of the landing craft and this delay caused an almost total failure of the attack on the left flank. This in turn greatly increased the difficulties of the landing force in front of Dieppe.

The general plan of attack was to make diversionary and covering attacks several miles to the right and left of the town and to follow these with a frontal attack on Dieppe by the main force of infantry supported by heavy tanks. A naval and air bombardment was to precede the main assault.

The troops landed at all the designated localities and pressed forward with considerable success in front and to the right of the town. Many difficulties were overcome. The tanks were landed in numbers but a sea-wall and massive road blocks prevented some from leaving the landing beach.

For nine hours the assault troops fought the enemy. In this daring combined operation, sea, air and land forces worked in perfect teamwork. Ships of the Royal Navy transported the troops, protected their landing, supported their advance by shelling enemy positions, and gallantly returned time after time to the beaches to re-embark the exhausted soldiers and marines. The destroyers, smaller vessels and numerous landing craft of the Royal Navy were

assisted by one Polish destroyer and some Fighting French chasseurs. Approximately 100 Canadian officers and ratings served with the Royal Navy at Dieppe.

Overhead an air screen of bombers and fighters in great strength vigorously supported the assaulting troops and protected their naval craft. In this air armada were included two R.C.A.F. army co-operation squadrons attached to the Canadian Army Overseas, Canadian fighter squadrons and many Canadian airmen serving in R.A.F. units. The air battle that took place over the beaches and cliffs of Dieppe was in itself a great strategic victory and clearly showed the inadequacy of German air defences.

In this Dieppe operation a number of local successes were scored in the land fighting, some important installations were destroyed and numerous casualties were inflicted on the enemy—including the very important effect on the morale of all the German occupying troops and their loss of prestige in failing quickly to dislodge an invading force. But the most valuable lessons to be learned from this daring foray include information about the strength and dispositions of the enemy forces, the practicability of an invasion of a sample well-defended coastal area and the degree of co-operation that can be achieved in a combined attack by the three services.

Before an invasion can be attempted such operations as that at Dieppe are essential. The casualties were exceptionally heavy—almost half of the forces engaged and 67% of the Canadian Army detachments—but heavy casualties in such a venture are to be expected and the loss of a few thousand men in this important invasion trial should mean the avoidance of errors in a full-scale invasion that would otherwise cost the lives of scores of thousands.

Of the 5,000 Canadian soldiers engaged, more than 3,350 are now dead, wounded, prisoners of war or missing, bringing Canadian Army casualties since the beginning of the war to approximately 6,500. For their achievements, their "stout-hearted resolution and matchless courage", all

the men of Canada's Army at Dieppe have been highly commended and 178 have been singled out for special mention and decorations. The highest award for valour given in the British Empire, the Victoria Cross, was granted to Lieut.-Col. Charles Merritt. Twelve officers received the Distinguished Service Order. The Military Cross was awarded to 16 officers, and 12 other ranks were given the Distinguished Conduct Medal. The Military Medal was won by 45 other ranks. Twenty-four officers and 68 other ranks were mentioned in dispatches.

The Canadian Women's Army Corps enlisted 1,012 recruits in August, more than the June and July totals combined. The strength of this corps, which is doing invaluable service, especially by releasing thousands of men for combat duty, is now more than 6,500. To accommodate the flow of recruits now enlisting at the rate of more than 1,000 each month, a third training school is being established at Kitchener, Ontario, in addition to the two at Vermilion, Alberta, and Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Navy

THE STRENGTH of the Royal Canadian Navy is now more than 48,000 officers and ratings—almost half the peacetime strength of the Royal Navy. The Navy's 500 ships include 13 destroyers, more than 80 corvettes, 3 auxiliary cruisers, minesweepers, subchasers, patrol vessels and scores of smaller craft.

The Navy shares with the Royal Navy and the United States Navy the task of convoy protection and anti-submarine patrols in the Atlantic. In their work, ships of the R.C.N. operate as far south as the Caribbean and, in the Pacific, as far north as the Aleutians. The U.S. force that recently effected a landing in the Aleutians was supported by five Canadian warships.

Men of the Canadian Navy are engaged in naval operations throughout the world. They have seen service in the recent naval actions off Madagascar, in the Mediterranean,

in the naval raid on Tobruk and in the combined operations attack on Dieppe. For his gallantry in the latter action one Canadian officer serving with the Royal Navy was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, and two ratings were mentioned in dispatches.

While in no month of this war have ship sinkings reached the toll taken in some months of 1917, the Battle of the Atlantic is still being waged relentlessly and over a wider area than ever before. Since the outbreak of war the Royal Canadian Navy has convoyed more than 11,000 ships carrying 64,000,000 tons of cargo, and has accounted for at least four U-boats sunk, two "probably" sunk and many others that are listed as "possibles". In a spirited close-range action, H.M.C.S. Assiniboine exchanged shots with a German submarine, killed its commander, rammed and sank the enemy vessel and captured its crew.

The loss of the destroyer, H.M.C.S. Ottawa, the corvette, H.M.C.S. Charlottetown, and the patrol vessel, H.M.C.S. Raccoon, increases to 10 the number of Canadian warships lost and raises the Navy casualty list to 658.

The Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service will total 3,000 as rapidly as training facilities permit. The organization stage has been completed and the first trained members are in service.

Air Force

CANADIAN airmen have served or are serving in almost every quarter of the world. The range of their activities and the ability of giant modern bombers to make light of ocean and land barriers were dramatically emphasized on September 3 when an R.C.A.F. crew bombed Saarbruecken, 250 miles inside Germany, changed planes in England and arrived in Ottawa 12 hours after it had left the target.

To recount the recent successes of the men of the R.C.A.F. would be to tell again the story of how in recent weeks bombers and fighting planes have left English bases to continue their punishment of the enemy. R.C.A.F.

squadrons and Canadian airmen with the R.A.F. mounted guard over Dieppe and shielded the United States bombers in their vast daylight air assault on Lille. Canadian squadrons or Canadian airmen with the R.A.F. participate in almost every aerial operation originating in Great Britain. Although there are 25 R.C.A.F. squadrons in England, the Middle East and Far East, the majority of Canadian airmen overseas are attached to R.A.F. units. There are 2,000 in the Middle East.

Of the more than 125,000 in the R.C.A.F., approximately one-half are engaged in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan.

Not only in Europe and in other distant skies are Canadian airmen scoring telling blows against the enemy. In Alaska, in Labrador and in Newfoundland, they are flying beside United States airmen. Undisclosed numbers of squadrons are engaged in air defence, coastal patrol and convoy protection duty off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Canada. In fair weather and foul this essential but often arduous patrol work continues. The anti-submarine campaign has been particularly notable. Details have been made public of four engagements with enemy U-boats in which the planes pressed home their attacks with so much determination and skill that none of the enemy craft escaped undamaged and one or more probably were destroyed.

The R.C.A.F. (Women's Division) is steadily increasing in strength and now totals more than 7,500. Women are enlisted in more than 40 trades and although they are not enlisted for flying duties they are releasing thousands of men for other tasks. They are on duty across Canada, in the United States, Newfoundland and Great Britain.

Munitions

PRODUCTION of Canadian war manufactures continues to expand month by month. It is expected peak production, on the basis of the present program, will be reached early in 1943.

In the current calendar year Canadian war industry will produce \$2,600,000,000, compared with \$1,200,000,000 in 1941, an increase of 117%. In 1943 an annual rate of production of \$3,700,000,000 will be reached.

These figures of production do not include metals, foodstuffs and other products exported to the United States, the United Kingdom and other Empire countries. In 1943 these exports will total more than \$850,000,000. Nor do they include any pay or allowances for the armed forces, ocean freight on shipments, or inland freight. The latter alone will account for about \$50,000,000.

Following is a comparison of the production of war manufactures in 1942 and 1941 and the percentage increase during the year:

	1942 In Millions of Dollars	1941	Increase %
Ships (Merchant and Naval) (including repairs)	259	91	185
Aircraft (including overhaul)	268	104	158
Mechanical Transport	401	206	95
Guns and Small Arms	227	21	981
Shells and Bombs	214	88	143
Chemicals and Explosives	111	55	102
Tanks and Armoured Vehicles	201	21	857
Small Arms' Ammunition	49	16	206
Instruments and Com- munications Equipment	145.5	12.3	1083

The civilian aircraft industry which employed fewer than 1,000 workers before the war now employs 55,000 men and women. This industry which once turned out 40 planes a year now turns out 400 planes of all types every month. Production program includes many service types, among them: Hurricane fighters, Bolingbroke bombers, Curtiss navy dive bombers, Catalina PBY flying boats and the giant four-motored Lancaster bombers. The latter will be in production next year. A new Mosquito bomber, until recently on the secret list, is nearing the production stage.

In the last week of September the 51st 10,000 ton cargo ship was delivered. Only one cargo ship was completed prior to January 1, 1942. The output for nine months of this year represents 500,000 deadweight tons of shipping. During the present fiscal year Canada will produce about 1,000,000 tons of merchant shipping, in addition to 200 or 300 naval craft and several hundred smaller boats of various kinds. Two years ago the shipbuilding industry in Canada was inactive.

Contracts have been negotiated for construction in Canada of nearly 300 10,000 ton cargo vessels of an approximate cost of \$600 millions. Included in the program are a number of 4,700-ton merchant vessels.

In turning out these vessels Canada's shipbuilding industry has been enormously expanded. Where 14 shipyards employed 4,000 workers early in the war there are now 40,000 workers in 21 major and 58 smaller yards. Total orders increased 50% in the past year and now amount to more than \$750 millions.

The chemicals and explosives program, built on a peacetime industry, is one of the Dominion's major industrial contributions to war. Capital expenditures of \$125 millions have been made on plant expansion and new construction. The industry employs more than 50,000 workers. Exclusive of ammunition filling plants there are 21 chemicals and explosives plants in operation and 10 more in various stages of construction or projection. Ten of the established plants are first-line producers and six others, to come into production, will also rank as major projects. Facilities have been created for producing ammonia, basic material in explosive manufacture replacing Chilean saltpetre. Ammonia capacity is 50 times what it was at the beginning of the war.

More than 2,000,000 rounds of heavy ammunition are produced in Canada every month. There are 20 types of ammunition of 15 different calibres. Plants are now approaching maximum capacity. Output also includes aerial

bombs, trench mortar bombs, grenades, land mines and millions of components such as cartridge cases, fuses and primers. More than 50 basic types of pyrotechnics are also produced. In the last war Canada produced no filled ammunition.

Output of small arms ammunition such as rifle and machine gun bullets has reached nearly a billion and a half rounds a year. This is double last year's production and when capacity is reached next year the output will be doubled again. Eight types of eight calibres are produced, with the trend running to more incendiaries and more armor-piercing types. More small arms ammunition is now produced in one working shift than Canadian capacity could have produced in two months at the outbreak of war.

In September, 1939, only one type of service ammunition was being made in Canada. Where 500 workers were once employed in one plant, there are now 30,000 workers in two government arsenals and numerous factories being operated for the government by private interests.

Canadian small arms ammunition production in the best year of the First Great War was under 150,000,000 rounds. Monthly production in the first half of 1943 will amount to 300,000,000 rounds.

During August three Canadian plants each started production of a new type of ordnance—a new type of 4-inch naval gun, a large anti-aircraft gun barrel and the Browning tank type gun.

There are now 12 types of guns, 16 types of carriages or mountings, and 10 types of small arms being produced in the Dominion. These include the 25-pounder artillery gun, carriage and trailer, two types of guns and mountings, two types of anti-tank guns and carriages, Bofors anti-aircraft guns and mountings, 3.7-inch anti-aircraft gun and equipment, 4-inch naval guns, 12-pounder naval gun, 2-pounder naval gun, naval mountings and small arms of various types.

Output of small arms and weapons, both army and naval types, in the first eight months of 1942 was about five times as great as the total output of these items in the 12 months of 1941.

Production of Bren machine guns is being doubled and will reach capacity of several thousand units a month early in 1943. Output of Sten machine carbine is being quadrupled to equal the volume of Bren gun output. Lee-Enfield service rifles are coming off the production lines at capacity rate of 4,000 a month and Browning aircraft and tank type guns are in quantity production.

The Canadian automobile industry, employing upward of 30,000 workers in major plants and thousands more in sub-contracting shops, has produced more than 300,000 military vehicles in about 100 different types.

Two plants are turning out two types of tanks, the Ram and the Valentine. Quantity shipment of Valentine tanks have been made to Russia. The Ram tank is in steady production in a Canadian plant which ranks as the second largest tank arsenal on the continent.

Numerous secret devices, such as radio-locators, are being produced in Canada. Secret instruments from plants in the Dominion are being used by the United Nations. Some of them are delicate instruments which were not made in Canada before the war, and in some cases had not been invented. They include navigating instruments for planes, ships and fighting vehicles; intricate fire control instruments for the Royal Navy; range finders and optical instruments of all kinds.

Hundreds of medium size firms whose normal business never exceeded four or five hundred thousand dollars a year are producing war materials valued from five to eight million dollars a year.

Previous to the outbreak of war Canada was almost entirely dependent upon the United States and Britain for machine tools. Now one-half the requirements of Canada's greatly expanded industry are made by Canadian workmen.

Machine tools are also being shipped abroad. In the past few months Canada has sent over 1,000 machine tools to the United States.

In small tools and cutters Canada is now almost self-sufficient and will be producing at the rate of 2,000,000 a month before the end of the current year.

This great expansion of industrial facilities has necessitated a great increase in the output of basic materials. Steel, for example, has been increased 110% from pre-war levels. Pig-iron production has soared 150%; malleable castings output is up 500%; and aluminum production, 600%.

More than 900,000 workers are now directly or indirectly engaged in Canadian war industry. New facilities have been created to a value of over \$560 millions with total commitments of \$714 millions. Contracts and commitments made by the Department of Munitions and Supply on Canadian, British and other accounts now total \$5,496,512,002. Of this amount \$2,882,775,034 has been placed on Canadian account and \$2,240,577,316 on British. Production is approaching maximum, limited by manpower and raw material resources available.

Food

IN SPITE of many difficulties caused by the war, Canadian farmers are continuing to perform a notable war service by greatly increasing production of food, meat and dairy products needed by Canada and by Canada's allies.

The third year of the war is marked by several very important achievements of Canadian agriculture. Although acreages are lower this year, the first official estimates forecast a record harvest of wheat and other grains. The production of hogs is 119% higher than in 1938-39 and, as a consequence, Canada has undertaken to increase the already vast shipments of bacon and pork products to the United Kingdom. During the year ending November, 1943, under the new contract 675,000,000 pounds will be shipped, or

20% more than the amount contracted for during the preceding twelve months. To meet this export commitment and to provide for increased consumption in Canada, at least 7,500,000 hogs must be raised.

This year Canada has agreed to ship the following foodstuffs to Britain, in addition to the great quantities of bacon, wheat and flour, fruits, vegetables and fish that are also being sent:

Cheese	125,000,000 pounds
Eggs (chiefly dried)	45,000,000 pounds
Condensed milk	31,480,000 1-lb. tins

The sheep population of Canada is increasing. Next year the number is expected to reach 4,000,000, or 1,000,000 more than at present. This will provide additional stocks of meat and an additional 7,000,000 pounds of wool which will save valuable shipping space.

Partly offsetting losses of overseas sources of vegetable oil—vital for many war uses—the production of flax seed in Canada is estimated to be three times that of last year and soy bean crops have also been considerably increased.

For the home market there has been a temporary shortage of meat and some prospect of meat rationing, but permission was given to increase the price of beef and this has substantially increased the supply of cattle for the domestic market.

Industrial Changeover

WORK of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in curtailing the activity of non-essential industry so that manpower may be diverted from these industries to essential war work has been made the responsibility of the new Industrial Division of the Board. The Industrial Division will extend the work of the Division of Simplified Practice which has been standardizing and reducing varieties of manufactures and simplifying market practices.

Allocating labor resources is the direct responsibility of National Selective Service, but the Industrial Division of

the W.P.T.B. will see that all non-essentials are eliminated and the minimum essential needs of Canada are satisfied by the use of the least possible amount of manpower, materials, machinery, fuel, power and transportation. The labor thus released will be channelled by National Selective Service into war functions and the machinery made available used for war production.

The problems facing the Industrial Division of the W.P.T.B. are outlined by Donald Gordon, Chairman of the Board as follows:

- (1) "The reduced supply of goods and services will mean that we shall have to develop plans for rationing of essential goods. With this in mind we are already organizing local rationing boards at strategic centres throughout Canada to apply the principles and policy that will be decided in regard to specific commodities. We are inviting the municipal authorities in such centres to assist us in selecting the personnel of such boards, all of which will be on a voluntary basis. There will, of course, be different methods followed for different cases. I should like to emphasize that hoarding of supplies and over-buying will be regarded as serious offences, because they will interfere materially with the Board's program of equitable distribution of available supplies.
- (2) "Consumer choice can no longer be permitted to dictate the production of most supplies. In some cases existing brands and styles may have to be discontinued in the interest of greater economy of effort and more efficient use of distribution facilities. There will have to be a drastic standardization of products, prohibition of new style lines and elimination of waste in varieties of goods.
- (3) "Adjustments of quality, through use of substitute materials, will have to be dealt with and will cause many difficulties in relation to established prices.

- (4) "The problem of 'essential' versus 'non-essential' activities will be a most intricate one. The definition of 'essentiality' will, of course, stir many differences of opinion. My only suggestion is that 'essentiality' must be tested in terms of what will win the war. Completely non-essential production, which does not contribute to the health and maintenance of the community, will, of course, be ruled out. In other cases curtailment of essential production to minimum requirements will raise questions about how the remaining production can best be obtained. In some cases it will be advisable to close down part of an industry and concentrate the production in a few plants. This will provoke questions of compensation and kindred problems, depending on the plan adopted. We shall expect each industry, after we have informed them of the curtailment necessary, to work out their own proposals in the first instance. It may be that where compensation seems necessary, mutual compensation pools can be organized within the industry concerned. We shall profit from the United Kingdom experience in this connection which means that we will shy away from proposals involving Government compensation schemes. Perhaps I should add that concentration of production cannot mean always the concentration in the biggest or most efficient plants. Our manpower requirements in given areas will play an important part as will the need for power, or other services in short supply. The whole program will require all the assistance and advice we can get, but all concerned must try to think through proposals in the light of the national interest. Selfish considerations of immediate or long-term advantage cannot be permitted to influence decisions. This is organization for total war and the casualties involved are the price for victory."

This booklet is a supplement to "Canada and the People's War", which replaced the September and October issues of "Canada at War". These two booklets together give a cumulative record of Canada's war effort to November 1, 1942.



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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. O. M." or similar, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.